IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-60 were initially filed with the application. Claims 5, 13-36, 42, 51 and 58 have been previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Applicant also previously amended claims 1, 12 and 37 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. Claims 1-4, 6-12, 37-41, 43-50, 52-57 and 59-60 are currently pending in this application and are subject to rejection.

We Claim:

1. (Previously Amended) A method of inhibiting bacterial colonization of mucous epithelium in a mammal comprising:

administering to said mammal a bacterial colonising inhibitor comprising an effective amount of a composition comprising N-acetyl cysteine and an antibacterial component isolated from hyperimmune colostrum or hyperimmune milk.

2. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said mucous epithelium is in the gastrointestinal tract.

3. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said bacteria are a *Helicobacter* species.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said *Helicobacter* species is *Helicobacter pylori*.

5. (Cancelled) The method of claim 1, wherein said mucolytic agent is N-acetyl cysteine.

6. (Previously amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said antibacterial component of hyperimmune colostrum or hyperimmune milk is lactoferrin.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said lactoferrin is hydrolyzed.

8. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said hyperimmune colostrum or hyperimmune milk is of bovine origin.

9. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said antibacterial component of hyperimmune colostrum or hyperimmune milk is an antibody selected from the group consisting of specific antibodies and cross-reactive antibodies to the bacteria.

10. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising administration of an antibiotic.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said antibiotic is amoxicillin.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~biological system~~ mammal is selected from the group consisting of a human and non-human animal.

13-36. (Cancelled)

37. (Previously Amended) A method for treating a disease or condition associated with bacterial infection of mucous epithelium in a subject comprising:

administering to said subject an effective amount of a combination comprising N-acetyl cysteine and an antibacterial agent isolated from hyperimmune colostrum or hyperimmune milk which treats the disease or condition associated with bacterial infection of mucous epithelium.

38. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 37, wherein the mucous epithelium is in the gastrointestinal tract.

39. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein said disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of gastric inflammation, an ulcer of the stomach, an ulcer of the duodenum, non-ulcer dyspepsia, and a gastric condition associated with leukocyte infiltration.

40. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 37, wherein said bacterial are *Helicobacter* species.

41. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein said *Helicobacter* species is *Helicobater pylori.*

42. (Cancelled) The method of claim 37, wherein said mucolytic agent it N-acetyl cysteine.

43. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 37, wherein said antibacterial component of hyperimmune colostrum or hyperimmune milk is lactoferrin.

44. (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein said lactoferrin is hydrolyzed.

45. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 37, wherein said hyperimmune colostrum or hyperimmune milk is of bovine origin.

46. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 37, wherein a said antibacterial component of hyperimmune colostrum or hyperimmune milk is an antibody selected from the group consisting of specific antibodies and cross-reactive antibodies to the bacteria.

47. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein said method further includes administration of an antibiotic.

48. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein said antibiotic is amoxicillin.

49. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 37, wherein said biological system is selected from the group consisting of a human and a non-human animal.

50. (Previously Amended) A composition comprising;

N-acetyl cysteine and an antibacterial component isolated from hyperimmune colostrum or hyperimmune milk.

51. (Cancelled)

52. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 50, wherein said colostrum or milk is of bovine origin.

53. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 50, wherein said antibacterial component of hyperimmune colostrum or hyperimmune milk is lactoferrin.

54. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 53, wherein said lactoferrin is hydrolyzed.

55. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 50, wherein said antibacterial component of hyperimmune colostrum or hyperimmune milk is an antibody selected from the group consisting of specific antibodies and cross-reactive antibodies to the bacterial.

56. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 50, further comprising an antibiotic.

57. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 56, wherein said antibiotic is amoxicillin.

58. (Cancelled)

59. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 50, wherein the antibacterial component inhibits a *Helicobacter* species.

60. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 59, wherein said *Helicobacter* species is *Helicobater pylori*.